SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

myAJC | AJC.com

$2.00

MOSTLY SUNNY, COLD
High: 38
Low: 28
0% chance of rain

Sunday: Mostly sunny, 39/24
Monday: Mostly sunny, 46/26
Tuesday: Partly cloudy, 49/29

Details on the back of **Metro**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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LIVING, D1
HOW HISTORY CENTER WILL OBSERVE KING HOLIDAY

HOW TO HELP ON DAY OF SERVICE

SPORTS, C1
WHY TODAY'S PLAYOFF IS DIFFERENT FOR THIS FALCON

AJC POLL

Trump's approval ratings in Ga. drop

Poll: 6 in 10 registered voters disapprove of performance in office.

By Greg Bluestein
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President Donald Trump's approval ratings have crumbled in Georgia over his first year in the White House, according to an Atlanta Journal-Constitution poll released Friday that shows nearly six in 10 registered voters disapprove of his performance.

The poll, conducted by the University of Georgia's School of Public and International Affairs, pegs the president's approval rating at 36.7 percent and his disapproval rating at 58.7 percent. That's a decline from an AJC poll conducted in January 2017 shortly before he took office with more evenly divided results.

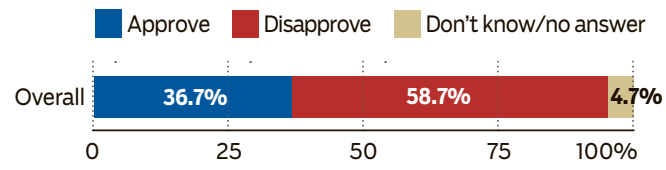
Trump's ratings in the poll are generally worse than what national polls have shown, and they deviate sharply from the results of the 2016 presidential election,

Poll continued on **A8**

AJC poll

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution commissioned a statewide poll that was conducted by telephone Jan. 3-5 and Sunday through Wednesday. The School of Public and International Affairs Survey Center at the University of Georgia contacted 940 registered voters for the poll, which has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.2 points.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?



Note: Sixty-five percent of the respondents to the poll were using cellphones and 35 percent were on landlines. The survey results were weighted in order to ensure the sample was representative of the population of Georgia registrants in terms of race, sex, and age. Some totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: The School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Georgia, AJC analysis

STAFF

IMMIGRANTS' REACTION TO PRESIDENT

Reputed slur fuels outrage

Haitian, African immigrants speak out against Trump.

By Ernie Suggs
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Haitian and African immigrants across metro Atlanta reacted with fury and disgust Friday to President Donald Trump's reported assertion that they come from "shithole countries."

"I haven't seen anyone so brazenly institutionalizing bigotry and racism," said Leo Mulbah, former president of the Liberian Community of Georgia. "This guy is a bigot. I'm deeply troubled that he occupies an institution that promotes democracy and he is damaging that institution that other countries look to as a model."

Mulbah, who is in his 40s, came to the United States with his family in the early 1990s, while he was still in his teens. He went to high school in Louisiana and to college at Louisiana State University and became a U.S. citizen. He said Trump's reported comments represent a willful ignorance about the educational demographics of African immigrants.

"I am working on my Ph.D., and my friends who've come here are highly educated," said Mulbah, whose father held a Ph.D. when the family arrived in the U.S. "Most of us have assimilated, raised our kids here and are contributing and doing well."

Immigrants continued on **A4**

ALSO INSIDE
» Faith leaders react to Trump's reported remark, **A5**

President Donald Trump listens during a bipartisan meeting on immigration policy at the White House in Washington. Others are (from left) Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo.; Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga.; Sen. John Tester, D-Mont.; Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, obscured; Rep. Martha McSally, R-Ariz.; Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.; Trump; Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md.; and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. THE NEW YORK TIMES

Perdue: Don't recall him saying it

Georgia senator, an ally of president, was at Oval Office meeting.

By Tamar Hallerman
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and Greg Bluestein
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WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. David Perdue's office said Friday that he doesn't recall President Donald Trump making disparaging remarks about Haiti and African nations during a private meeting at the White House, as Democrats pressured him to condemn the comments.

Perdue, a top ally of the president's, was at the Oval Office meeting Thursday discussing the protection of migrants from Haiti, El Salvador and African countries as part of a bipartisan immigration compromise when Trump reportedly said: "Why are we having all these people from shithole countries come here?"

The comments have caused an international firestorm and temporarily stalled hopes of a bipartisan deal that would shield young unauthorized people from deportation.

Perdue said through a spokeswoman that Trump convened the meeting to bring "everyone to the table this week and listen

Perdue continued on **A4**

ALSO INSIDE
» Trump undergoes first physical exam of presidency, **A4**

OPIOID CRISIS

Doctors miss pill-tracking deadline

Ga. physicians, dentists required to register for new drug database.

By Carrie Teegardin
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A third of Georgia's physicians and half of the state's dentists failed to meet the Jan. 1 deadline to register for the state's prescription drug monitoring program, a crucial tool in the state's effort to combat the opioid crisis.

A state law passed last year required all of the state's prescribers to create accounts with the pill-tracking database, which doctors can use to see if a patient is getting multiple prescriptions for highly addictive drugs. As of July 1, doctors, dentists and other prescribers must start checking the database before writing prescriptions for opioid medications that treat pain and benzodiazepines that are used for anxiety, insomnia and other conditions.

The Georgia Department of Public Health said some of the state's licensed doctors and dentists and other providers are not required to register because they are not seeing patients and do not have a DEA number. But the department has not been able to determine how many of those who had not registered by the deadline fall into that category.

Health care practitioners who fail to comply with the law may be subject to discipline by their professional licensing board.

Doctors continued on **A5**

SPORTS, C1
Braves sign Vizcaino, but not Foltynewicz
The team didn't agree to a deal with arbitration-eligible starting pitcher Mike Foltynewicz (left) before a Friday deadline.

METRO, B1
Drug charges dropped for 64 partygoers
The Bartow County DA dismissed the cases Friday, but the NAACP says the arrests violated civil rights, so the fight isn't over.

NATION & WORLD, A8
Trump decides not to reinstate Iran sanctions
But he gave European allies 120 days to agree to an overhaul of the Iran nuclear deal or officials said he would pull the U.S. out of it.

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